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October 19, 2012

Ms. Kate Linthicum
Los Angeles Times
202 W. 1st St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Linthicum:

Thank you for your patience and understanding, as you are well aware of our severe staffing shortages.

With regards to your requested information...

We are not familiar with the MOU to which you are referring.
Therefore, it is difficult and inappropriate to comment.

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), as do other municipalities, maintains the exclusive right to provide fire protection and pre-hospital care within its jurisdictional boundaries. Although geographically, other Fire Departments may have Fire Stations or resources at any given time located nearer to a specific emergency, the LAFD dispatches the nearest available LAFD resource(s) in every instance. Throughout the state, 9-1-1 requests for emergency assistance are received and dispatched by the designated primary jurisdiction dispatch center.

Furthermore, the LAFD does not monitor unit status availability of its other fire service partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Brian Cummings.

Brian Cummings
Fire Chief